

ZPP

Fish Lifecycle Detailed Review Paper - Comments 12/9/2002

It was a little hard to get into today's teleconference (I think the time was a bit too short to cover all topics), but here are my principle comments:

1. I totally agree with the need for the DRPs to summarize existing experience with the various options, so that informed discussions can be had about their various strengths and weaknesses. This has been a recurring problem with the reviews, and I had hoped by now it would have been corrected. The requested analysis should be reviewed before making decisions on which path to follow, as there are budgetary and time aspects to any decision that need to be considered.
2. The DRP does not discuss steroid nuclear receptors, particularly the extent to which they are homologous across the test species. There may be little or no information in this regard, but that should be mentioned if so, and included as a data gap. The greater the homology, the more likely they will respond in quantitatively similar fashions.
3. I would like to see a specific discussion of the impact of the different form of sex differentiation in the zebra fish versus the other three species.
4. I would like to see stronger emphasis placed on the advantages of genomics et al for the zebrafish, as molecular tools for following up effects for this species is probably years ahead of anything else given its prominent role as a model system in developmental biology.
5. As I mentioned on the phone, the Japanese MOE lab in Tsukuba has an ongoing project using the medaka and evaluating a short term assay, a partial life cycle and a full life cycle with about a dozen potential EDCs (several alkylphenols and phthalates) that should be brought into the discussion. These investigators visited RTP last week, and I think they also stopped by OSCP before that. The investigator's name was Norisha Tatarazako, and works at the NIES. I am sure they would be willing to share their experience, as they left me with a number of data summaries.

Additionally, I suggest that consideration be given to having a monthly telecall on a given topic, so that we can weed through all the material that seems to be coming down the pike. I fear the amount of material that might be cued up for the summer meetings might mean that we cannot devote the time necessary to really digest the material and cover the topics.

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